

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides an exhaust gas purification apparatus which can efficiently purify HC in exhaust gas of an engine upon cold starting of the engine. The exhaust  
5 gas purification apparatus for an engine comprises a catalytic converter provided in an exhaust path of the engine and including a carrier, an HC absorbent, an HC purifying catalyst, and a transition metal, and a control apparatus for controlling operation of the engine, the  
10 control apparatus including an HC desorption timing estimation section for estimating a timing at which the HC is desorbed from the HC absorbent and a control section for controlling an air fuel ratio upon starting of the engine to a ratio richer than a stoichiometric air fuel  
15 ratio to start operation of the engine and changing over the air fuel ratio to a ratio leaner than the stoichiometric air fuel ratio at the timing at which the HC is desorbed based on an output of the HC desorption timing estimation section.